

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05  
ACDA-07 CU-02 VO-03 SCA-01 DHA-02 /094 W  
-----100416Z 099977 /17

R 091520Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4757  
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
AMEMBASSY SOFIA  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
AMEMBASSY WARSAW  
USMISSION USBERLIN UNN  
USMISSION UC BRUSSELS  
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 5988

E.O.11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, GE  
SUBJECT: MONITROING OF WARSAW PACT IMPLEMENTATION-  
GERMAN DEMOCRATICE REPUBLIC

REF: BERLIN 5905

1. THE EMBASSY WISHES TO ADD FURTHER INFORMATION ON  
GDR CULTURAL LIFE TO REFTEL RELATING TO GDR PERFORMANCE  
ON CSCE ISSUES GEFORE BELGRADE WHICH THE DEPARTMENT  
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MAY FIND USEFUL AS BACKGROUND. WHILE CONTINUING TO  
LIMIT ALL EMIGRATION TO THE FRG (AND OTHER COUNTRIES)  
FALLING OUTSIDE THE RUBRIC OF FAMILY REUNIFICATIONS,  
THE GDR HAS IN RECENT MONTHS APPROVED APPLICATIONS  
FOR EMIGRATION BY SEVERAL PROMINENT, DISSATISFIED GDR  
CITIZENS, SOME ASSOCIATED WITH EXILED SINGER WOLF  
BIERMANN. THE FIRST OF THIS GROUP, WRITER THOMAS

BRASCH AND ACTRESS KATHERINA THALBACH, WERE ALLOWED TO LEAVE THE GDR IN NOVEMBER 1976. SINCE THEN, SEVERAL BIERMANN FRIENDS, INCLUDING ACTRESS EVA MARIE HAGEN, SINGER NINA HAGEN, AND SYBILLE HAVEMANN, DAUGHTER OF DISSIDENT SCIENTIST ROBERT HAVEMANN, HAVE BEEN ALLOWED TO EMIGRATE, MORE RECENTLY, POPULAR GDR COMIC EBERHARD COHRS WAS ALLOWED TO LEAVE THE GDR WITH HIS FAMILY IN FEBRUARY, AS WAS CONTROVERSIAL WRITER RAINER KUNZE IN APRIL.

2. IN ALL OF THESE CASES, THE PERSONS ALLOWED TO EMIGRATE FOLLOWED THE STANDARD PROCEDURE OF SUBMITTING AN EMIGRATION APPLICATION TO THE GDR AUTHORITIES. BRASCH, COHRS AND KUNZE ALL GAVE INCREASED OFFICIAL PRESSURE AND CENSORSHIP AS REASONS FOR LEAVING THE GDR, AND ANOTHER POPULAR GDR FIGURE WHO MAY LEAVE SOON, ACTOR MANFRED KRUG, HAS TOLD EMBOFFS HE FEELS THE GDR HAS SO CURTAILED HIS PROFESSIONAL POSSIBILITIES THAT THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE TO EMIGRATION.

3. THUS, IN A DEPARTURE FROM ITS INCREASINGLY STRICT APPROACH TO EMIGRATION OUTSIDE THE FAMILY REUNIFICATION FRAMEWORK, THE GDR APPEARS WILLING TO ALLOW AND EVEN ENCOURAGE SOME DISSATISFIED, PROMINENT CULTURAL FIGURES TO EMIGRATE TO THE FRG, SEEKING THEREBY TO CONTROL THE INTERNAL ENVIRONMENT THROUGH SELECTIVE EMIGRATION.

4. COMMENT: IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT THE GDR  
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WILL VOLUNTEER INFORMATION ON THIS PRACTICE IN THE CSCE CONTEXT, EVEN IN DEFENSE OF ITS GENERAL HUMAN RIGHTS POSITION. TO DO SO, COULD OPEN UP A BROADER DISCUSSION OF ARTISTIC FREEDOM WHICH THE GDR CAN BE EXPECTED TO AVOID IN VIEW OF THE INTERNAL CONTROLS IT EXERCISES OVER CULTURAL EXPRESSION, AND BECAUSE IT UNDOUBTEDLY CONSIDERS THIS PRACTICE TO BE AN INTERNAL AFFAIR. NONETHELESS, THE SELECTIVE IMMIGRATION PRACTICED BY THE GDR COULD BE RAISED BY OTHERS, PARTICULARLY THE FRG, IF THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE DEVELOPS IN THAT DIRECTION. POLANSKY

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NNN



## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, GC, CSCE, WTO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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